

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) An optical pickup unit <sup>PG</sup> comprising:

<sup>LD</sup>  
a semiconductor laser;

<sup>PD</sup>  
a photodetector arranged separately from the semiconductor laser;

<sup>OL</sup>  
an objective lens; and

<sup>MIR</sup>  
a rising mirror;

wherein said optical pickup unit ~~for converging~~ converges a laser beam produced by a said semiconductor laser on a signal recording surface of an optical disc<sup>Disc</sup> through an said objective lens by reflecting said laser beam by a reflecting surface of a said rising mirror, and ~~for detecting~~ detects a return beam from said signal recording surface by a said photodetector by reflecting said return beam by the reflecting surface of said rising mirror,

wherein a rising angle between the reflecting surface of said rising mirror and a pickup's lower surface of said optical pickup unit is smaller than 45 degrees; and

wherein optical parts including ~~said semiconductor laser and~~ said photodetector are arranged in an optical base with said optical parts inclined with respect to said optical base so such that said optical parts ~~are not jutted out~~ do not extend downwards from said pickup's lower surface downwards of said optical pickup unit.

2. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~ The optical pickup unit as  
claimed in claim 1, wherein ~~said optical pickup unit further~~  
~~comprises, as~~ said optical parts comprise: [[,]]

a diffraction grating for separating said laser beam  
produced by said semiconductor laser into three laser beams,  
a beam splitter for reflecting said three laser beams from  
said diffraction grating and for transmitting said return beam,  
a collimator lens disposed between said beam splitter and  
said rising mirror, and

a concave lens disposed between said beam splitter and said  
photodetector.

3. (Currently Amended) ~~An~~ The optical pickup unit as  
claimed in claim 2, wherein ~~said optical pickup unit further~~  
~~comprises, as one of~~ said optical parts further comprise [[,]] a  
forward sensor for monitoring a light amount of the laser beam  
which is produced by said semiconductor laser and which is  
partially transmitted through said beam splitter.

4. (New) The optical pickup unit as claimed in claim 1,  
wherein said photodetector includes a plurality of signal  
taking-out pins which are arranged horizontally with a constant  
gap therebetween.